## Minutes of Meeting Louisiana Cemetery Board November 14, 2019

The regular meeting of the Louisiana Cemetery Board was held November 14, 2019, at 3445 North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 509, Metairie, Louisiana, pursuant to notice. Chairman Melancon called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Present were:

Gerald W. Melancon, Chairman

Marilyn Leufroy, Vice-Chairman

Shelly M. Holloway, Secretary/Treasurer

F. Anton Wilbert, Board Member Richard C. Briede, Board Member

Lucy L. McCann, Director

Jerry W. Sullivan, Special Counsel to the Board Ryan M. Seidemann, Assistant Attorney General

Absent was:

Rev. Shelton C. Dixon, At-Large Board Member

Stacey L. Patin, Board Member

Marlene Goebel, Donegan Bartell, Thibodaux, Louisiana; Daniel A. Ranson, Gaudry, Ranson, Higgins & Gremillion, L.L.C., Gretna, Louisiana; and Blake J. Alfortish, False River Memorial Park, L.L.C., New Roads, Louisiana.

## **Public Comment**

A court reporter was present in the matter of Administrative Hearing #2019-001 Re: False River Memorial Park, L.L.C. d/b/a False River Memorial Park, New Roads, Louisiana.

Mr. Briede made a motion to take the agenda out of order to conduct Ethics Training. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leufroy and unanimously approved.

The following individuals watched an Ethics Training video, Chairman Melancon, Ms. Leufroy, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Briede, Mr. Wilbert. Lucy L. McCann, Ryan M. Seidemann, and Jerry W. Sullivan. All other Board Members will need to complete Ethics Training on line and provide proof of completion to the Board for their records.

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

The Director introduced April Watson of Blue Williams, L.L.P., Metairie, Louisiana, a copy of Ms. Watson's resume was before each Board Member. Ms. Watson also provided the Board with information on Blue Williams, L.L.P. and advised she had moved to Blue Williams earlier this year after being employed with Sessions, Fishman, Nathan, & Israel for the past 15 years. Ms. Watson answered questions for Board Members, Counsel, and the Director regarding her experience with litigation, trusts, title work, and legislation, Ms. Watson represents several state agencies including, but not limited to, the Louisiana Department of Revenue and the Causeway Commission. Ms. Watson also has experience defending respondents before licensing boards and experienced with the Administrative Procedure Act. The Board thanked Ms. Watson for her presentation.

The Director introduced Albert J. Derbes, IV and Eric J. Derbes of the Derbes Law Firm, L.L.C., Metairie, Louisiana, copies of their resumes was before each Board Member. Albert and Eric Derbes provided information on their law firm, advising the firm is comprised of nine attorneys and one certified public accountant. Further, they answered questions for Board Members, Counsel, and the Director regarding their experience with commercial bankruptcy, litigation, trusts, successions, and transaction work. Both Eric and Albert Derbes are licensed Title Agents. Eric Derbes has represented the State Board of Certified Public Accounts since 1994 and is knowledgeable with the Administrative Procedure Act. Through their association and representation of the CPA Board they receive continuing education yearly that includes regulatory issues related to anti-trust laws related to licensing and regulatory boards. Albert and Erick Derbes advised their firm has sufficient resources to draw from to provide the services needed by the Board. The Board thanked Albert and Eric Derbes for their presentation.

The Board discussed the candidates and their experience, indicating that both were qualified to serve as Special Counsel to the Board. The Board tabled its decision until the November 15, 2019 meeting.

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The meeting adjourned for the day at 2:17 PM.

Shelly M. Holloway, Secretary Treasurer

Attested To:

Gerald W. Melancon, Chairman

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